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Agricultural Marketing Service  
and  
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Weather Bureau

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Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection  
Division of Agr'l. Statistics  
Agricultural Extension Service  
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 3/10/59

Week Ending 3/9/59

WEATHER Temperatures averaged near or a little below normal during the week, with cold weather during the middle, and mild at the beginning and end. Heavy snow fell over most of the eastern third of the State Wednesday and Wednesday night, and light to moderate snow over much of the central portion. Strong winds caused some drifting, but much of the snow was too wet and sticky to drift badly.

Cold weather prevailed during the first 20 days of February, and rather mild temperatures thereafter. The average precipitation was a little below normal. Most of it fell during the storm of the 9-10th, and again around the 20th of the month. Temperatures averaged considerably below normal over most of the State.

CROPS Heavy snow in eastern Nebraska brought welcome relief to areas where surface moisture has been critically short. Moisture penetration varied because drifting was bad in some cases, but the ground absorbed much of the early fall of wet snow and rain. Stalk fields and other fields with good vegetative cover held much of the heavy snow despite accompanying high winds, but some wheat fields with light cover were bare when the storm subsided. Higher temperatures over the week end caused rapid disappearance of snow, but runoff has been fairly light with the ground generally soaking up the moisture from melting snow. Snowfall was light in the western half of the State. Some central counties still need moisture to aid winter crops and put the ground in shape for spring tillage operations.

Winter crops were beginning to green up in the southern counties, notably the southwest where soil moisture conditions are favorable. Prospects for winter crops remain good to excellent in the southern Panhandle counties, but damage from blowing soil and exposure was causing concern in some sections further north. Wheat in some central and east central counties is spotted with an uncertain outlook. The crop in the southeastern counties is fair to good and most of it is coming through the winter without serious damage.

A little field work was started in the southern counties last week, and it should gain momentum, except in eastern areas getting moisture last week. Farmers in the east and northeast were busy digging out of heavy snow and drifts.

LIVESTOCK In general, livestock withstood the snow storm without serious loss or shrinkage. Feed lots are quite muddy in the eastern part of the State.

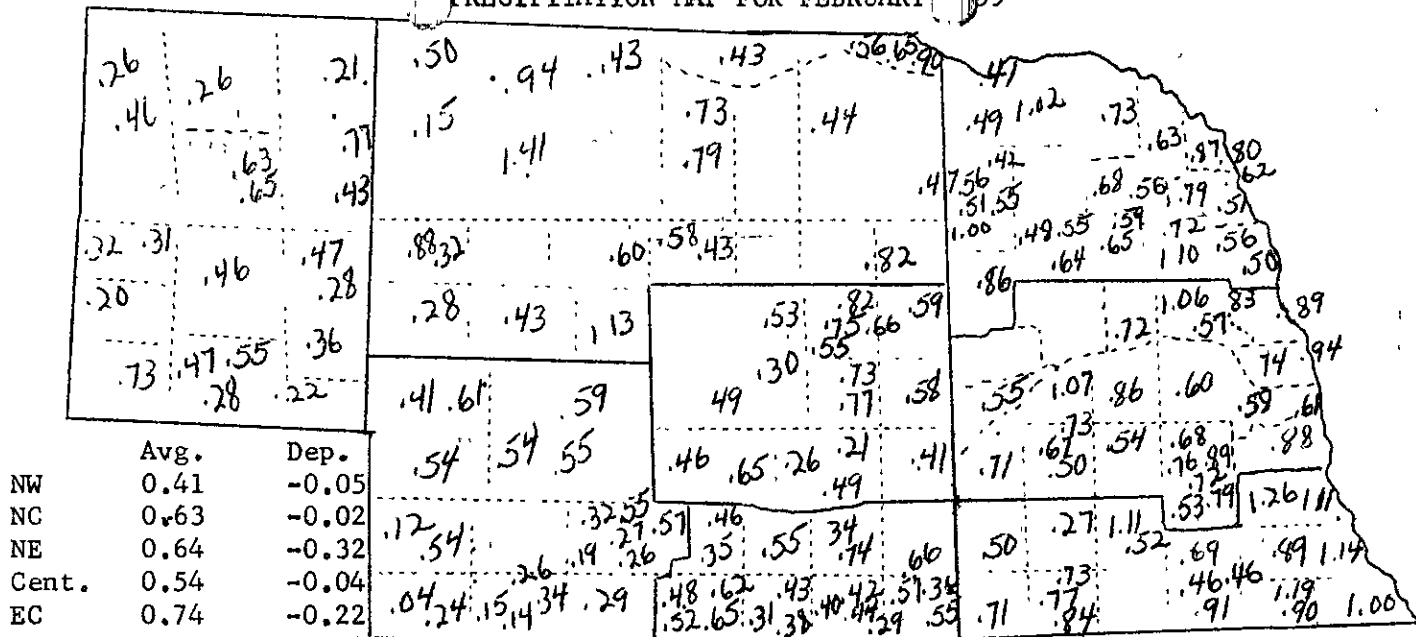
Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle and calves into Nebraska continued to exceed the level of a year earlier, with February 1959 reaching a record high of 72,000 head. The total for February 1958 was 50,000 head. The total shipped into the State since January 1 this year, amounted to 150,000 head--also a record large number for the two month period, and 29 percent above the corresponding months in 1958.

Sheep and lamb arrivals in February numbered 25,000 head, 24 percent above those for February 1958, but otherwise the smallest receipts for February since 1949. January-February inshipments were about 42,000 head this year, down 10 percent from a year earlier.

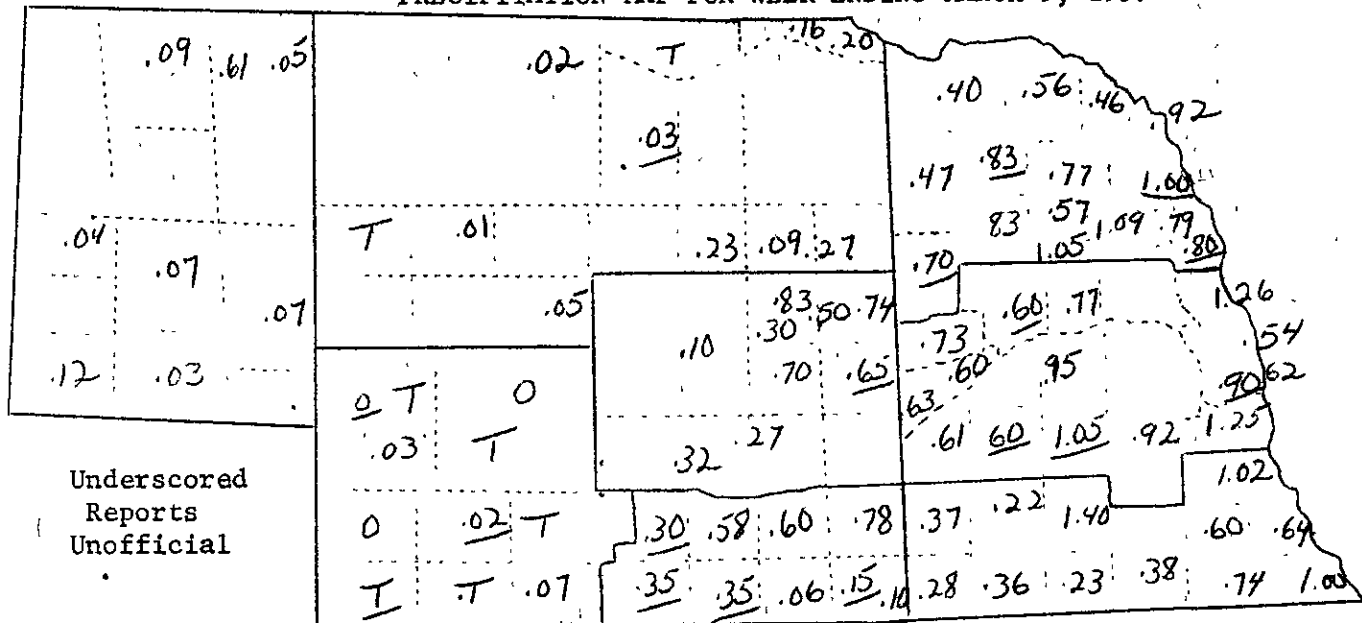
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 9, 1959

<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>	
Grand Island	.63	Burwell	.09	Chadron	.09
Lincoln	.92	North Platte	0	Imperial	0
Norfolk	.83	Valentine	0	Scottsbluff	.03
Omaha	.53			Sidney	.03
Sioux City	.84				

# PRECIPITATION MAP FOR FEBRUARY 1959



# PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 9, 1959



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		March 3rd		4th		5th		6th		7th		8th		9th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	40	16	49	23	36	20	37	19	40	22	49	26	51	29
	Scottsbluff	46	19	46	22	36	13	38	19	41	21	51	26	51	28
	Sidney	40	21	47	22	33	19	34	16	39	19	49	26	48	28
NC	Burwell	--	24	--	--	34	21	32	20	30	12	50	27	50	27
	Valentine	41	19	45	28	34	18	35	18	34	20	53	29	52	22
NE	Norfolk	49	30	43	30	33	23	28	22	31	4	40	28	42	12
	Sioux City	44	29	40	28	32	23	29	23	31	9	39	28	42	27
Cen	Grand Island	48	27	48	33	35	22	29	18	32	11	50	29	48	29
EC	Lincoln	49	32	47	36	39	24	28	24	32	16	44	33	45	32
	Omaha	46	29	44	29	34	23	25	23	31	12	39	29	40	23
SW	Imperial	46	21	55	27	36	21	36	20	41	23	56	29	52	31
	North Platte	46	18	51	31	37	21	36	18	39	17	55	25	53	24